

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL JOSEPH
REED

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with deep gratitude and great admiration that I rise today to honor and commend an extraordinary public servant, husband, and friend of long standing, Mr. Michael Joseph Reed. Michael, my Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Advisor, will be retiring from federal public service effective August 3, 2021. He will leave behind a stellar career and a void in my office that will be hard to fill. A retirement reception will be held for him at 5:00 p.m. on July 28, 2021 in Washington, D.C., attended by numerous friends, family, colleagues, and others with whom his life and career have intersected.

Michael Joseph Reed is a native of Buffalo, N.Y. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama. He also earned a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Michael's career in public service began as a Presidential Management Intern (PMI) at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Budget Policy. This experience led him to his first Capitol Hill position as an intern for former Congressman Louis Stokes of Ohio, who was a member of the House Appropriations Committee. After leaving Congressman Stokes, he joined the staff of Congressman William Gray, Chairman of the House Budget Committee and a member of the Appropriations Committee, as Legislative Director.

After leaving Congressman Gray's office, he was Vice-President for Marketing at the United Negro College Fund. He was also the Director of Regional Card Marketing and Vice-President for Government Affairs for the American Express Company.

In 2003, when I was selected to serve on the House Appropriations Committee and was searching for a seasoned Appropriations Specialist and Legislative Policy Advisor, I was blessed to hire Michael as my Special Assistant for the Appropriations Committee. He served in that capacity for twelve (12) years until he was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff in 2011 and Chief of Staff in 2015.

For eighteen (18) years, I have been matriculating in "The Michael Reed School of Budgetary Policy." He has been a master teacher of the process and its nuances. While he initially had no working knowledge of agriculture issues, he worked hard to learn these issues and used his skills to help my growth and effectiveness in the Agriculture Subcommittee of Appropriations and facilitate my securing the Chairmanship. Michael drove the Congressional response in the form of agriculture disaster relief over the past three (3) years to include typhoons, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, droughts, and other exigencies. Georgia and American Agriculture were able to get relief because of his significant work. Georgia agriculture producers and rural communities benefited mightily from his efforts. Michael led my staff with great aplomb. He never told me only what I wanted to hear but always told me what I needed to hear. Because of him, we have been able to serve the people better.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said, "Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth." Michael has paid his rent and paid it well.

Having served in the public sector, corporate sector, and the nonprofit sector, he has truly made a difference. But none of this would have been possible without the grace of God, the love and support of his loving wife, Attorney Diane Fields Reed, his father-in-law, Judge Richard Fields, and their beloved dog, Alexandra.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives, to join my wife, Vivian and me, along with our entire Congressional staff, past and present, and the 730,000 residents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia in honoring and commending Mr. Michael Joseph Reed on his outstanding career and upon the occasion of his retirement. We wish him well as he begins a new chapter in his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, during Roll Call Vote number 230 on Rep. Ocasio-Cortez Amendment, I mistakenly recorded my vote as nay when I should have voted aye.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF NARDIN ACADEMY ART TEACHER GAILE AMIGONE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Gaile Amigone. Gaile has been an art teacher at Nardin Academy Elementary in Buffalo since 1993. Her 30-year tenure has left an indelible imprint on Nardin Academy.

A 1975 graduate of SUNY Buffalo State College, Gaile spent much of her career teaching elementary art to kindergarten through eighth grade students. As a result of her encouragement to develop their creativity and talent, many of her students have gone on to study art at the high school and college level.

Aside from her classroom duties, Gaile was actively involved in the school community. She served as the director for yearly theatre productions presented to the Nardin Community and their families. She also dedicated her time to conducting After School Art Enrichment Programs for students who were interested in additional studio art immersion and instruction.

Gaile routinely welcomed her former students back into her classroom where they shared their growth and development with her, as well as their appreciation for her foundational role in their success as artists. It is clear that she has made a significant impact on many students' talents, creative abilities, and passion for the arts.

Wife of attorney Nicholas P. Amigone III, mother of three sons, and grandmother to nine

grandchildren, Gaile is retiring with a legacy of dedication to the artistic and cultural enrichment of young minds.

I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Mrs. Gaile Amigone for her service to the Nardin Academy community and the positive impact she has had on generations of Nardin students.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN "JAY" KALPAKOFF

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John "Jay" Kalpakoff. Jay passed away on June 16, 2021. Jay was a selfless husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Jay was born on November 8, 1948 in Los Angeles, California where he was raised. He became a third-generation garbage collector, as part owner of Metropolitan Waste. Jay was a boss who enjoyed helping his employees through sponsoring many local sports teams and would help with scholarships to encourage continuing education.

When Jay decided to move to the Central Valley with just one truck, he had a dream. Jay hoped to one day own his own garbage collection company. Through dedication and perseverance his goal was achieved, and Mid Valley Disposal was established. His dream was to have the ability to continue to give back to his community. Jay cherished his business and was an integral part of its day to day operations. Jay treated all his employees like his own family, and he cherished each of the local communities that his company served.

Jay was known for having a huge heart and always giving back to others, whether through this philanthropy or just lending a helping hand. He lived to see the community around him thrive and it was apparent as he gave back to local charities and food banks, to name a few. He made friends everywhere he went and loved to tell stories.

Jay was truly an inspiration and he moved many with his wisdom, character and humor. But the most important thing to him, was his family. He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Natalie; children Joshua, Jonathan, Joseph, Tatiana, Justin; his daughter-in-law Wendy and his grandchildren Harrison, Remy and Cash.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of John "Jay" Kalpakoff. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. I join his family and friends in honoring and celebrating his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CHRISTOPHER CARTWRIGHT

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Christopher Cartwright, who passed away in May 2021, at age

52. Chris was a dedicated civil servant with a brilliant mind, a vast well of patience, and boundless compassion. He spent most of his 30-year career with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and served most recently as the Director of NOAA's Budget Office.

Chris created an environment of trust and collegiality everywhere he went. He was unflappable in navigating the budget and appropriations process and always applied a calm and thoughtful approach to achieving NOAA's mission. Through it all, Chris was unfailingly kind and humble. His gentle leadership inspired his team—and those around him—to be better people, leaders, and public servants.

Chris was a proud graduate of Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, where last year he had the honor of leading the graduating class in recitation of the Athenian Oath. True to the oath he held so dear, Chris "strived unceasingly to quicken the public sense of civic duty." We are grateful for his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 219, YEA on Roll Call No. 220, and YEA on Roll Call No. 221.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT, INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my amendment number 131 to En Bloc 5 of H.R. 4502.

My amendment to the Financial Services and General Government division addresses the lack of transparency for applicants and recipients of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG), and other critical SBA programs.

These SBA loans saved thousands of jobs and stopped businesses from shuttering their doors throughout this crippling pandemic.

But all too often, I hear from my constituents that they have been left in the dark as they try to access and apply for these programs.

Currently, the loan application process does not allow constituents to view the status of their application.

Especially in such a challenging year, the last thing small business owners need is confusion and uncertainty.

My office was able to step in and help hundreds of constituents access their cash, but the lack of transparency and access to real-time updates on their status from the SBA slowed the process down.

This amendment will help cut through red tape and get folks the money they need to keep their doors open and their employees on payroll.

As we look ahead and work toward continuing our economic recovery, it's time to bring the SBA into the 21st Century.

We created these SBA programs to support Americans in their greatest time of need. This amendment will continue to respond to the direct needs of small businesses in the Hudson Valley and in every district across the Nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this amendment.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NYPD SERGEANT MICHAEL ST. CHRISTOPHER FULLER

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergeant Michael St. Christopher Fuller. Sergeant Fuller was born on the island of Jamaica and immigrated to the United States with the dream of becoming a police officer. That dream became a reality in 1995 when he graduated from the police academy at the age of 33 years old. Over the course of his career, Sergeant Michael S. Fuller served in the following posts and units: The 13th Precinct located in the Southern portion of Midtown Manhattan, the Cabaret Unit which focused on vice crimes, the 94th Precinct located in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, The Inspections Unit, The Chief of Patrols Office, Manhattan South Task Force, and Manhattan South Evidence Collection.

On September 11, 2001, Sergeant Fuller was enjoying a day off from work when he received the news about the terror attacks that were occurring across the nation. He immediately changed into his uniform, picked up his children from school, and jumped into a police van to respond to the attacks in Lower Manhattan. His heroic actions of that day and the rescue/recovery mission over the following weeks would prove to be fatal as he was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer due to his service on December 31, 2019. Despite being diagnosed with a deadly form of cancer, Sergeant Fuller continued to be positive and was steadfast in his decision to respond to the attacks on September 11, 2001.

In the 90's, Sergeant Fuller received an FBI Commendation for aiding in the rescue of a kidnapped girl by recognizing the vehicle which the girl had last been seen in while he was on duty.

Sergeant Fuller was a decorated law enforcement officer who served proudly for twenty years receiving a "Good-guy Letter" upon retirement in 2015. He had never received a command discipline or had disciplinary actions taken against him.

Sergeant Fuller is survived by his loving wife Sunni Beth Fuller, loving son Jesse Ethan

Fuller, and loving daughter Becky Cara Fuller. He will always be remembered as a hero, a fantastic father, a man dedicated to his work, and a proud immigrant who lived out his American dream as he was always so proud to call himself an American.

Sergeant Fuller's end of watch has come, but he has served faithfully, proudly, and without hesitation. His family and friends are forever grateful for his love and dedication. May he rest peacefully.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL GREGORY GIBBONS

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Colonel Gregory Gibbons on his appointment to command the Letterkenny Army Depot.

A New York native, Colonel Gibbons is a graduate of the Army War College, where he received a Master's in Strategic Studies.

His first military assignment was in 1997 as a platoon leader, and later executive officer of A Company, 123rd Main Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division, Germany. Upon completing his tour in Germany, Colonel Gibbons served at multiple posts, including Okinawa, Japan with the Special Operations Command, and in Istanbul, Turkey with the NATO Rapid Deployment Corps.

During his career, Colonel Gibbons has deployed to areas of critical interest for our national security around the globe including, Bosnia, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

Throughout his time in the Army, Colonel Gibbons has led the soldiers under his command with honor and distinction. He is a recipient of the Bronze Star with Oak leaf cluster and has qualified as an Army Ranger after completing the grueling eight-week leadership course to earn his Ranger Tab.

I am grateful for Colonel Gibbons' service to defend our nation. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Colonel Gibbons on his appointment to lead the Letterkenny Depot, and I wish him, and the soldiers stationed at Letterkenny every continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAUTAUQUA BLIND ASSOCIATION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the one hundredth anniversary of the Chautauqua Blind Association, now known as CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services.

CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services was established in 1921 as the Southwestern Tier Association for the Blind, Inc. In 1983, the organization became known as the Chautauqua Blind Association. In 2013, the organization became CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services to better explain their programming and offerings